The 1850s Layered Curriculum American Studies I (CP)

Sophomores

**NAME**

We will be studying the 1850s, arguably the most turbulent time in American history, by using a layered curriculum format.  Be sure to follow the directions for each section.  All “mandatory” assignments MUST be completed, but they will count toward the total point score for that particular section.  The last day to turn in points for this unit will be Tuesday, December 4, 2012.

***“C Level”*** – In order to earn at least a “C” you must earn 75 points in order to move on to “B Level.”  In order to earn the points for a specific assignment, you must make an oral defense of it.  You will not be allowed to make more than one oral defense per day.  In order to move on to the “B Level,” you must earn 75 points by **Tuesday, November 20, 2012**.

1. MANDATORY 1850s Personality – You will be assigned a person to study and create a 2-minute digital documentary about him/her using VoiceThread. This documentary will include images and a voiceover. (25 points)
2. Flash Cards – Henry Clay (be specific about this unit), Missouri Compromise, Tariff of Abominations, Wilmot Proviso, Compromise of 1850, Fugitive Slave Law, Harriet Beecher Stowe, *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*, Kansas-Nebraska Act, Stephen Douglas, Charles Sumner, Pottawatomie Creek, Lecompton Constitution, Dred Scott, John Brown, Harper’s Ferry, VA, Constitutional Union Party, Abraham Lincoln, South Carolina, Fort Sumter (20 points) (5 bonus points if you create an on-line version of the flash cards using the on-line flash card creators at quizlet.com)
3. Follow the trail of Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas in their debates across the state of Illinois, summarizing the major points made by each at each of their stops. (15 points)
4. Go to Brown Square in Newburyport, take a picture of the statue of the abolitionist figure there, and write a one-side-of-a-page essay as to why the person there deserves to have a statue. (15 points)
5. Read a chapter from Uncle Tom’s Cabin and use it to discuss Harriet Beecher Stowe’s viewpoint on slavery. (10 points)
6. Trace the route taken by the slave Dred Scott on his supposed trip to freedom and discuss what happened at each of the stops along the way. (10 points)
7. Read Chapter 10 and answer all of the “Assessment” questions at the end of each section. (5 sections x 5 points for each section = 25 points)

***“B Level”*** – In order to earn at least a “B” and move on to the “A Level” you must complete and be quizzed on two of the following assignments.  These points must be turned in by **Tuesday, November 27, 2012**.

1. Using the graphic novel maker, <http://www.comicmaster.org.uk/>, make a two-page book about one of the following events: a. the Fugitive Slave Act; b. the Dred Scott case; c. John Brown’s Raid
2. Create a political cartoon about one of the following events: a. the Missouri Compromise; b. the Mexican War; c. the publication of Uncle Tom’s Cabin; d. the Kansas-Nebraska Act; e. the Lincoln-Douglas Debates; f. the Election of 1860. A political cartoon is “[t]he visual portrayal of an idea, often using symbols, caricature, and humor, to make a point or argue a particular point of view” (definition from <http://www.discoveryeducation.com/teachers/free-lesson-plans/american-beginnings.cfm>) You may use any of the following sites to create your cartoon: <http://writecomics.com>, <http://stripgenerator.com>, <http://www.makebeliefscomix.com>, or any other site that you can find.
3. Create a series of trading cards in which you describe the 10 most significant people from the 1850s.
4. Listen to the podcast at this site and write a two-sided essay in which you agree or disagree with thoughts of the presenter and why you do so. Be sure to you include quotes from the presentation in your essay. <http://www.gilderlehrman.org/historians/podcasts/podcast.php?podcast_id=608>

***“A Level”*** – In order to earn an “A” you must complete and have a discussion about one of the following four assignments.  You must write a 2-3 page paper about the topic that you select. This paper must be turned in by **Tuesday, December 4, 2011**.

1. Research slavery in today’s world and find out what is being done to end it. What role does the United States play in the slavery issues of today?